

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /090 R

DRAFTED BY: ARA/ECP:WBURSON

APPROVED BY: ARA/ECP:SHROGERS

EB/OT/GCP:MGOLDMAN

LA/DP:KABRAHAMS

STR:BSTEINBOCK

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P R 171607Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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JOINT EMBASSY/AID ACTION

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON GSP

REF: (A) STATE 4977, (B) STATE 59719

GUATEMALA FOR ROCAP

1. AS POSTS ARE AWARE, U.S. OFFICIALS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS

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HAVE INDICATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSIST-

ANCE TO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES IN ORDER THAT THEY MAY

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GSP. A NUMBER OF EMBASSIES HAVE REPORTED HOST COUNTRY INTEREST IN A SEMINAR WHICH WOULD OFFER COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON GS, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES. LATIN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES REITERATED THEIR DESIRE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT RECENT SCCN MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO SUCH INTEREST AND IN FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR ASSISTANCE COMMITMENT, U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICIAL FERNANDO MACIAS UNDER AID FINANCING IS ACCOMPANYING AN UNCTAD TEAM WHICH WILL DISCUSS GENERALIZED PREFERENCE SCHEMES IN PANAMA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA. SCHEDULE FOR THE SEMINARS IS AS FOLLOWS:

PANAMA, MARCH 15-20; HONDURAS, MARCH 21-25, NICARAGUA, MARCH 26-31; COSTA RICA, APRIL 1-6. ALTHOUGH THE UNCTAD TEAM HAS POSTPONED ITS VISIT TO GUATEMALA, MACIAS WILL MAKE A PRESENTATION THERE APRIL 8-9, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY CONFIRMATION.

2. UNCTAD STAFF WILL DISCUSS PREFERENCE SYSTEMS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OTHER THAN U.S. USG WAS INVITED TO PROVIDE AN EXPERT ON OUR GSP IN VIEW OF NEWNESS OF U.S. PROGRAM AND HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST IN BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES. MACIAS WILL PROVIDE PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON GSP REGULATIONS, INCLUDING TOPICS SUCH AS VALUED ADDED, CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN, SUBSTANTIAL TRANSFORMATION, ASSOCIATIONS OF COUNTRIES, DIRECT SHIPMENTS, ETC. HE WILL NOT ENTER INTO DISCUSSION OF GENERAL US TRADE POLICY. INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH INDUSTRIALISTS, EXPORTERS, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE ALSO EXPECTED.

3. USG PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SEMINAR ON GSP IN BRUSSELS (NOVEMBER, 1975) TO WHICH SOME 35 REPRESENTATIVES FROM 18 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING SEVERAL IN LATIN AMERICA, WERE INVITED. HOWEVER, SINCE PRESENT SERIES IS THE FIRST SOPHISTICATED TECHNICAL LEVEL SEMINAR EFFORT BY THE USG IN LATIN AMERICA, WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN A COMPREHENSIVE EMBASSY-AID EVALUATION: DO THE SEMINARS ADEQUATELY PROVIDE TECHNICAL INFORMATION WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE NOT BE AVAILABLE? LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS COVERAGE SUFFICIENTLY BROAD IN BOTH PUBLIC AND

PRIVATE SECTORS? DO SEMINARS REPRESENT USEFUL IMPLEMENTATION FOR PROGRAMS INVOLVING PRODUCT-MARKET IDENTIFICATION STUDIES WHICH WOULD EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR TAKING ADVANTAGE OF GSP? OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS RELATING TO EFFECTIVENESS OF SEMINAR IN MEETING HOST COUNTRY NEEDS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. ANY ROCAP COMMENT ON UNCTAD

SEMINARS AS WELL AS PRESENTATION IN GUATEMALA IS ALSO
WELCOMED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS), SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE064566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARA/ECP:WBURSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760101-0107
From: STATE JOINT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760350/aaaabsdv.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 4977, 76 STATE 59719
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON GSP
TAGS: ETRD, US, XM, UNCTAD
To: PANAMA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006